Claims

1. A plasmid selected from the group consisting of pPP-2 and pAcDSM.

2. The plasmid of claim 1 being pPP-2.

3. The plasmid of claim 1 being pAcDSM.

4. A recombinant baculovirus having the 5' nontranslated leader sequence of the polyhedrin gene joined to the coding region of a foreign gene precisely at the translation initiation codon of the polyhedrin gene, without either missing any nucleotide present in said initiation codon or introducing any extraneous nucleotide at the initiation codon site.

5. The baculovirus of claim 4, wherein said foreign gene is herpes simplex virus (HSV) type 1 glycoprotein (gG-1) gene.

6. The baculovirus of claim 4, wherein said foreign gene is herpes simplex virus (HSV) type 2 glycoprotein (gG-2) gene.

7. Substantially pure HSV gG-1 antigen produced by employing the baculovirus of claim 5.

8. Substantially pure HSV gG-2 antigen produced by employing the baculovirus of claim 6.

9. A diagnostic kit, comprising containers separately containing recombinant baculovirus expressed HSV gG-1 and HSV gG-2 antigens in substantially pure form.

10. A diagnostic assay for detecting type-specific HSV infection, comprising reacting a biological sample obtained from a person suspected of HSV infection, with substantially pure recombinant baculovirus expressed HSV gG-1 and HSV gG-2 antigens, the formation of an immunocomplex with said HSV gG-1 antigen being indicative of HSV type 1 infection and the formation of an immunocomplex with said HSV gG-2 antigen being indicative of HSV type 2 infection.

11. A composition, comprising immunoreactive amount of substantially pure recombinant baculovirus expressed HSV gG-1 or HSV gG-2 antigen in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. A monoclonal antibody having specific binding affinity only for HSV type 1 antigen.

13. A monoclonal antibody having specific binding affinity only for HSV type 2 antigen.

14. A kit, comprising a container separately containing monoclonal antibodies having specific binding affinity only for HSV type 1 or type 2 antigen.

15. A method for producing substantially pure protein, comprising growing the baculovirus of claim 1 containing the foreign gene encoding a protein desired to be obtained in substantially pure form, in a medium allowing expression of said protein and then isolating said protein in substantially pure form by conventional isolation and purification techniques.

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